Julie Parsley

Paul Hudson

Barry T. Smitherman

W. Lane Lanford
Executive Director

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Public Utility Commission of Texas

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FCC - MAILROOM

Marlene H. Dortch - Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 Twelfth Street, S.W. - TWA 325 Washington, D.C. 20554

Irene Flannery - Vice-President of High Cost and Low Income Divisions Universal Service Administrative Company 2000 L. Street, NW - Suite 200 Washington, D.C. 20036

December 5, 2005

RE: Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, CC Docket No. 96-45

Docket No. 24481 – Designation of Common Carriers as Eligible Telecommunications Carrier to receive Federal Universal Funds Pursuant to the Federal Communications Commission's Fourteenth Report and Order Adopting A State Certification Process

TX PUC Project No. 25787 - FCC Letters Regarding ETC Designation Pursuant to FTA '96 §214(e) (2)

Docket No. 31724 – Application of Caprock Cellular Limited Partnership (Caprock Cellular) for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. 241(e) and P.U.C. Subst. R. 26.418

Caprock Cellular Limited Partnership - Annual Affidavit

On November 15, 2005, the Texas Public Utility Commission (TPUC) issued a letter regarding designation of Caprock Cellular Limited Partnership (Caprock Cellular) pursuant to Section 214(e) (2) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended (the "Act") and 47 C.F.R. sections 54.201 – 54.203, as an eligible telecommunications carrier (ETC) for the

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exchanges of Cap Rock Telephone Cooperative, Inc. The TPUC's *Final Order*, Docket No. 31724, issued on November 7, 2005, granted this designation.

On November 25, 2005, Caprock Cellular filed the attached letter and affidavit of Jim Whitefield, Chief Executive Officer – Caprock Cellular, which attests to the company's intent to use the federal support within its study area for provision of the designated services required by 47 C.F.R. §54.101. This document is forwarded to your attention pursuant to 47 C.F.R. 54.314 for the purpose of calculating federal universal service support for Caprock Cellular.

If you require any additional information please call Janis Ervin at (512)-936-7372.

Sincerely,

Janis Ervin - Senior Policy Specialist

Infrastructure Reliability Division - Texas Public Utility Commission

cc: Rosemary McMahill - Lead Communications Industry Analyst

Commission Industry Oversight Division - Texas Public Utility Commission



November 29, 2005

Mr. James R. Galloway
Filing Clerk
Public Utility Commission of Texas
1701 North Congress Avenue
Austin, Texas 78701

RE: Docket No. 24481 – Designation of Common Carriers as Eligible Telecommunications
Carriers to Receive Federal Universal Service Funds Pursuant to the Federal
Communications Commission's Fourteenth Report and Order Adopting a State
Certification Process

Dear Mr. Galloway:

On behalf of Caprock Cellular Limited Partnership (Caprock Cellular or the Company), enclosed please find the original and nine (9) copies of an affidavit, pursuant to P.U.C. Substantive Rule §26.418(j) and Order Nos. 1 and 2 in the above-mentioned docket. Caprock Cellular requests that the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC) notify the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) by January 5, 2006 that the Company has provided an attestation that federal universal service support will be used only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended.

Caprock Cellular was designated an eligible telecommunications carrier (ETC) by order dated November 7, 2005 in Docket No. 31724. As a competitive ETC, Caprock Cellular has been assigned Study Area Code (SAC) 449032.

ETCs are required by P.U.C. Substantive Rule §26.418(j)(1) to file an affidavit annually with the PUC by September 1 that the carrier is complying with the federal requirements for the receipt of federal universal service support annually. Because Caprock Cellular's ETC designation was after September 1, the Company was unable to meet the September 1, 2005 deadline. However, P.U.C. Substantive Rule §26.418(j)(2) provides that carriers not meeting the September 1 deadline may be subsequently certified by the PUC as eligible for receipt of federal high-cost universal service support.

Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. §54. 314(d)(6)(vi), filing of the PUC's certification letter with the FCC and USAC on or before January 5, 2006 will permit Caprock Cellular to receive federal universal service support as of the effective date of its ETC designation. If the PUC's certification to the FCC and USAC is not filed until after January 5, 2006, Caprock Cellular will not be able to receive federal universal service support until the third quarter of 2006.

Mr. James R. Galloway November 29, 2005 Page 2 of 2

Caprock Cellular respectfully requests that the PUC certify to the FCC and USAC that the Company's federal high-cost support from the federal universal service fund will be used only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended. The Company also requests that the certification be filed with the FCC and USAC by January 5, 2006.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (512) 343-2544.

Sincerely,

Jean Langkon

Authorized Representative for

Caprock Cellular Limited Partnership

JL/pjf

Enclosure

cc: Ms. Janis Ervin, Infrastructure Reliability, PUC

Ms. Rosemary McMahill, Communications Industry Oversight, PUC

Mr. Jim Whitefield, Caprock Cellular

DOCKET NO. 24481

| DESIGNATION OF COMMON CARRIERS | § | PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION |
|-----------------------------------|---|---------------------------|
| AS ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS | § | |
| CARRIERS (ETC) TO RECEIVE FEDERAL | § | |
| UNIVERSAL FUND PURSUANT TO THE | § | OF TEXAS |
| FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS | § | |
| COMMISSION'S FOURTEENTH REPORT | § | |
| AND ORDER ADOPTING A STATE | § | |
| CERTIFICATION PROCESS | § | |

STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF DICKENS

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared Jim Whitefield of Caprock Cellular Limited Partnership, who on his oath deposed and said:

- 1. My name is Jim Whitefield. I am employed by Caprock Cellular Limited Partnership in the position of Chief Executive Officer. In this position, I am personally familiar with the Federal Universal Service support received by the Company and how the Company uses these funds.
- 2. Caprock Cellular Limited Partnership was designated as an eligible telecommunications carrier (ETC) by the Public Utility Commission of Texas in Docket No. 31724, by order dated November 7, 2005. The Company is a competitive ETC.
- 3. The Federal Universal Service support funds received by Caprock Cellular Limited Partnership are used only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities for which the support is intended, as designated by the Federal Communications Commission consistent with Section 254(e) of the Federal Telecommunications Act.

These funds will be used to provide the following supported services as designated in 47 C.F.R. §54.101 which are available throughout the <u>Company's study</u> area:

- (a) voice grade access to the public switched network;
- (b) local usage;
- (c) dual-tone multi-frequency signaling or its functional equivalent;
- (d) single party service, or its functional equivalent;
- (e) access to emergency services, including 911 service and enhanced 9-1-1 service to the extent the local government in the eligible carrier's service area has implemented 911 or enhanced 911 systems;
- (f) access to operator services;
- (g) access to interexchange service;
- (h) access to directory assistance; and,
- (i) toll limitation for qualifying low-income customers.
- 4. The matters addressed above are within my personal knowledge and are true and correct.

Jim Whitefield

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, on

this 35th day of November, 2005.

SHANA BETH CHEYNE
Notary Public, State of Texas
My Commission Expires
11-18-2008

Notary Public
State of Texas